A Service of Worship and Praise of God
And Appreciation for the Life Of

Edward Graham O'Neal

Sunrise
November 25, 1933

Sunset
April 23, 2016

Funeral Service
Tuesday, May 3, 2016
Viewing 10:00am - Service 11:00am
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
405 S. 10th Street
San Jose, CA 95112
Reverend Jennifer Goto ~ Officiating

Gathering

10:00am 10:45am ..... Viewing

The Word of Grace

Greeting ..... Reverend Jennifer Goto
Pastor, St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Selections ..... Friday Night Live Band

Somewhere Around the Throne
I'll Take You There

Prayer .....

Witness to Grace

Scripture Reading ..... Reverend Jerry Fox

Psalm 27

Hymn ..... In the Garden

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Meditation ..... Pastor Jennifer Goto

Sharing the Gifts of Ed's Life .....

Charles V. Smith
Malin Swope
Sheff Clarke
Jerry Fox

Solo ..... Karen Parker

People Get Ready

Commendation & Blessing

The Lord's Prayer .....

Hymn of Promise ..... Page 707

Dismissal with Blessing ..... Pastor Goto

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Paul's United Methodist Church in honor of Edward O'Neal

The repast will take place immediately following the interment at Oakhill Memorial Park in the church fellowship Hall.

Obituary

I believe in the sun even if it isn't shining. I believe in love even when I am alone. I believe in God even when He is silent.

(found on a cellar wall in Cologne, Germany where Jews hid during WWII)

Edward Graham O'Neal was born on November 25, 1933 to Martha and Ernest O'Neal in Raleigh, North Carolina. He was the youngest of four children. He departed this life quietly on April 23, 2016. He was married to Doris Jean Overton and they became the parents to one son, Christopher Montgomery O'Neal. They were married 51 1/2 years.

At the time of their marriage, Ed united with First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto, CA. Later they relocated to San Jose, CA and transferred their membership to St. Pauls' United Methodist Church, San Jose, CA where he remained a member until his death.

At an early age, Ed used his vocal talent in various venues around Raleigh. After transferring to St. Paul's, he sang in the choir and was often a featured soloist. One of his memorable roles was when he portrayed Judas in the "Service of Darkness" program held on Good Friday for a number of years. He also served as Chairman of the Trustee Board for St. Paul's for a number of years.

Ed attended Washington High School in Raleigh, North Carolina; he graduated May 2, 1952. He then went on to Shaw University, located in Raleigh, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in English. While at Shaw, he was very active in the music program. He sang in the University choir (a featured baritone) and participated in many Music Department productions; specifically, he sang a rendition of "Some Enchanting Evening," a song from the musical South Pacific. Because of his vocal talents, he was encouraged by his music professors to

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pursue a musical career. Ed was also inducted into Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity on the campus of Shaw University.

After graduating from Shaw, Ed relocated to Redwood City, CA. He worked at the Veterans Administration Hospital for many years. After leaving the VA hospital, he was employed at Raytheon as a Technical Editor. During his

time at Raytheon, Ed joined the Kiwanis Club. After several years at Raytheon, he was employed at General Electric for many years before his retirement in 1997.

Ed has many talents and interest. He received an award from Sunset magazine for his original design of his backyard at his home. His interest in art led to many creative pieces using cork. Many of his cork pieces hang on display in area banks.

Idyllics by O'Neal was his endeavor into commercial art. His concept of early scenes of Silicon Valley lead to an artist rendering that appears on novelty items such as posters, cups, tote bags, aprons metal placard, and note cards. These items could be found in many local gift shops including the Mineta International airport gift shop.

Ed along with his wife Jean, enjoyed traveling. They took many trips that included cruises, train tours across the country, bus tours of the New England states, and many trips to Lake Tahoe, Reno, and Las Vegas.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. He touched the lives of many people.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents, Martha and Ernest O'Neal, his sisters, Mae Mildred, and Walena. He is survived by his devoted wife, Doris Jean, his son Christopher, his brother Reverend Ernest O'Neal, Jr. and sister-in-law, Lula O'Neal, cousins of North Carolina, his extended family here in the Silicon Valley area, and a host of friends.

It is in the deepest darkness of the starless midnight that men learn how to hold on to the hidden Hand most tightly and how that Hand holds them; that He sees where we do not, and knows the way He takes; and though the way be to us a round about way, it is the right way.
Author: Tappan (A.T.) Pierson

Memory Lane

Ed with his mother, and Sister

Ed After Graduation from Shaw University

"My Girl"

The beginning of a nearly 52 year marriage partnership

Memory Lane

And then came Chris!

Memory Lane

From his home office upstairs, when I got home from school,
I would hear him say...

Wash Your Hands
before you go into the Refrigerator!!!

Stephanie Walker
In remembrance of my Uncle Ed

Memory Lane

The 3 Amigos
Malin Swope, Warren Coffey and Ed O'Neal

A Man and His Truck

A poetic description of Edward O'Neal's life delivered to
the Kiwanis of San Jose

By Doris O'Neal

An Ordinary Life

Born in Carolina, the northern part that is.
A healthy baby boy intending to claim the world as his.
The youngest of four children in a modest family,
A matriarchal home, Mother headed the clan you see.

An ordinary childhood marked with early tragedy,
The death of father and of sister before the age of three.
Still one brother and one sister and Mother and me were left,
To overcome circumstances that left our family with a cleft.

An ordinary childhood challenged by the need to survive,
We overcame our losses; to happier time we did arrive.
There were some happy times and some funny times, being the
youngest in a family of three.
For the most part, while Mother worked, Sis took care of me.

Like the time when she bathed me in a tub on the top of the stove.
Her well meant intention was to keep me from getting cold.
Except the bottom of the tub became excruciatingly hot,
And, I found it extremely difficult to stand in one spot.

Sis taught me more than I wanted to know,
About homemaking and housekeeping, when I wanted to be on the go,
She even helped me with my school work, a hard task master was she,
Insisting that I do it right when I wanted to be free.

My grade school education was at Lucille Hunter School.
I think I learned a bit more than to follow the golden rule.
I had my share of mischief, it should be understood.
I often said and did things I knew I never should.

There were also many things that were unquestionably right.
Like school plays and singing that many claimed was out of sight.

At age fourteen I sang arias, and ballads and popular music too.
I sang all the way through college, and sometimes I still do.

I tried my hand at football at dear old Washington High.
This sport was not my forte...though I really gave it a try.
The arts were my strong points, I really had a dream.
To sing and act in theatre, perhaps even the silver screen.

I matriculated for four years, beginning in '53.
In the town where I grew up, at Shaw University.
An English major with teaching in mind,
A fraternity brother, Alpha Phi Alpha the kind.

By the time of graduation, a change did I find,
In the effect I could have on fresh young minds.
My talents are now used at G.E., I say
And before that Raytheon, and before that the VA.

Let me not leave out my talents with the ladies fair,
But out of modesty and respect, my soul I will not bare.
Suffice it to say I had my day, of tosses and turns in the proverbial hay.

Inevitably in life, somber times do come, and we lost Sis in '71.
Her strength, her goodness, her impact will last,
Especially her charge: "Never Live in the Past!"

My life is exciting and challenging and replete,
With schedules, appointments and homework to be made neat.
"Never a dull Moment" is sure apropos.
My wife, my son and I stay on the go.

At this point in my life, "Idyllics by O'Neal,"
Is a long lost dream that now has become real.
One other important event for me:
I now have become a real Kiwani

"God Saw"

God saw you getting tired,
and a cure was not to be.
So He put His arms around you
and whispered, "Come with Me."

With tearful eyes we
watched you slowly fade away.
Although we loved you dearly,
we would not make you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard-working hands put to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best

Author unknown

Pallbearers

Carl Brown
Joshua Overton
Chase Overton
Yendis Thomas
George R. Overton, Jr.
Marc L. Taylor
Michael Taylor
Derrick Walls

Honorary Pallbearer

Christopher O'Neal

The Family of Edward G. O'Neal wishes to thank the friends and neighbors as well as the staff of Kaiser Permanente Hospice who helped to care for Ed. We are so grateful for your support. And, we thank you in advance for your continued support as we adjust to life without his physical presence. May God bless each of you.

Mrs. Doris J. O'Neal and the Family of Edward G. O'Neal